1. Purpose

The purpose of this industry standard is to warrant transparency for the consumer regarding the quality of CBD capsules on the Dutch market. Members of CAN (the Cannabinoids Association of the Netherlands), whose products comply with the standard, may request the CAN hallmark for these products.

2. Definition

CBD capsules are softgel capsules filled with CBD oil. The definition of CBD oil is included in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1].

The capsules may be manufactured from cellulose derivates, such as HPMC (suitable for vegetarians) or gelatin, which is animal derived. The consistency of the capsules may be adjusted by the addition of substances such as glycerol or sorbitol. Excipients such as surface-active agents, opaque fillers, preservatives, sweeteners, colouring and flavouring substances may be added.

The production and filling process of the softgel capsules must comply with the requirements of HACCP and ISO 22000 or a similar standard and include suitable in-process controls.

3. Regulatory status

The regulatory status of CBD oil is included in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1] and is also applicable to CBD capsules.

4. Maximum daily dose

The maximum recommended daily dose = 160 mg CBD[2]. It is also possible to recommend a lower maximum dose, e.g.: do not exceed the recommended daily dose.
Each label should contain the maximum recommended daily dose stated as the number of capsules and the amount of CBD per capsule.

5. Claims

No medical claims and no health claims are permitted. Not on the primary or secondary packaging, nor on any marketing material, including flyers, leaflets, ads, websites, blogs, etc.
Health claims are only permitted for ingredients that have been submitted to and approved by EFSA[3]. Until now, no claims have been submitted for CBD or hemp extracts.

[1] https://www.cannabinoidenadviesbureau.nl/diensten/keurmerk/
[2] https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/wob-verzoeken/2018/01/31/besluit-wob-verzoek-over-over-de-stof-cannabidiol-cbd
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling_nutrition/claims/register/public/?event=register.home

6. Labelling requirements[4]

a. Name of the product
b. List of ingredients in descending quantity, per annex VII (EU/1169/2011)
c. Allergen declaration, per annex II (EU/1169/2011)
d. Net quantity (number of capsules)
e. The amount (mg) of CBD per capsule
f. Date of minimum durability, per annex X (EU/1169/2011)
g. Batch code
h. Storage conditions
i. Instructions for use (e.g. ingest with water)
j. Dosage recommendation for daily consumption
k. A warning not to exceed the stated recommended daily dose
l. Name and address of the food business operator
m. Statement "Food supplement"
n. Do not use during pregnancy or breastfeeding
o. A statement to the effect that food supplements should not be used as a substitute for a varied diet
p. A statement to the effect that the product should be stored out of the reach of young children
q. No mention of the THC percentage

When products are made available on-line (via internet) the required information must also be made available, except for the batch code and date of minimum durability. This can be provided directly with the product or accessible via a hyperlink. Consumers must be able to see this product information online before purchase.

7. Test procedures

The quality of CBD oil must comply with the requirements as stated in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1]. The following additional tests are required for the capsules.

#	Parameter	Specification	Method[5]
1	Appearance	[colour] [shape] capsules [size][6]	Visual
2	Content CBD per capsule	Label declaration +/- 10% (w/w)	in-house method

[4] According to EU/1169/2011 and 2002/46/EC
[5] See Annex 1 - 1 in the Industry standard for CBD oil[1] for the list of approved laboratories
[6] To be determined by manufacturer